



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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January 20, 2009

TO: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Wendy L. Watanabe *Wendy L. Watanabe*
Acting Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – TURMONT
HOME FOR BOYS/GIRLS – TURMONT HOME FOR BOYS GROUP
HOME**

We have completed a review of Turmont Home for Boys Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Turmont Home for Boys/Girls. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Turmont Home for Boys Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for boys ages 13-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Turmont Home for Boys Group Home was providing services for five DCFS children.

Turmont Home for Boys Group Home is located in the Second District.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, employee records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the

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program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Summary of Findings

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement, except for a few deficient areas. The Group Home needs to remove the water and grease substance in the dirt from the back yard, replace missing tile in the bathroom and repair or replace the broken blinds in the bedroom. The Group Home also needs to develop Needs and Services Plans that are comprehensive and maintain documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (213) 253-0301.

WLW:MMO:DC:AA:CC:bg

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Ted Myers, Chief Deputy Director, DCFS
Susan Kerr, Senior Deputy Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Rhonna Carroll, Board President, Turmont Home for Boys/Girls
Ora Quaynor, Executive Director, Turmont Home for Boys/Girls
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**Turmont Home for Boys/Girls
Turmont Home for Boys Group Home
Carson, California 90746
License Number: 191600783
Rate Classification Level: 8**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Turmont Home for Boys Group Home is located in a residential community. Overall, the exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped. However, the back yard has a water and grease substance in the dirt posing a potential safety hazard.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, there is missing tile around the showerhead in the bathroom.

Generally, children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate. However, the window blinds are broken in the bedrooms.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

1. Turmont Home for Boys/Girls management:

- a. Remove the water and grease substance in the backyard.**
- b. Replace the missing tile around the showerhead in the bathroom.**
- c. Repair or replace the broken blinds in the bedrooms.**

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current and the treatment team develops and implements the NSPs with input from the child. However, NSPs are not comprehensive and do not include short and long term goals.

Case files do not reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Recommendations

2. Turmont Home for Boys/Girls management:

- a. Maintain comprehensive NSPs that include short and long term goals.**
- b. Maintain adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.**

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no children taking psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

Children are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment – Interviews with children

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks. Children also receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VIII. Personnel Background Checks

Method of assessment - Review of relevant documents

Sample size: Four

Comments:

The Group Home has obtained the required criminal and child abuse clearances for their employees.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

TURMONT HOME FOR BOYS/GIRLS

A HOME FOR CHILD NURTURE, CARE & DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTED TO AN EXCELLENT HOME ENVIRONMENT

September 2, 2008

County of Los Angeles
Department of Audit-Controller
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Attn: Candace Rhue, Group Home Audit Supervisor
500 W. Temple St., Room 515-A
Los Angeles, Ca. 90012

REF: TURMONT HOME FOR BOYS/GIRLS
741 E. Turmont St.
Carson, Ca. 90746
License No. 191600783
Rate Level 8
CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN (BOYS SITE)

1. FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENT

Turmont Group Home will assure that regular routine maintenance is provided to all areas of the facility not limited to but including:

- A. The puddle of grease and water has been cleaned and removed. Sand has been applied to the area to prevent water from accumulating in the area.
- B. Turmont has replaced the missing tile around the showerhead in the restroom.
- C. Turmont has replaced all broken window blinds in the bedrooms.

All needed repairs and maintenance will be immediately completed and maintained appropriately. The facility will also remain free of safety hazards at all times. The Facility Manager will do daily routine checks, and any concerns or problems will be documented and repaired, replaced or secured immediately.

The Administrator will be responsible for quality assurance and will perform daily periodic checks to assure the system is working and that a safe, secure and well maintained environment is provided at all times.

741 E. TURMONT STREET, CARSON, CA 90746 310.532.5606 / 661.948.2634

TURMONT HOME FOR BOYS/GIRLS

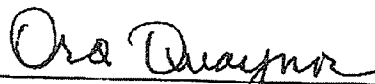
A HOME FOR CHILD NURTURE, CARE & DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTED TO AN EXCELLENT HOME ENVIRONMENT

II. PROGRAM SERVICES

2 a, b. Each resident will be provided with a complete initial diagnostic after being admitted into the group home. A copy of this evaluation will be maintained in each client's case file.

All Needs and Service plan will be developed with both the resident and child's placement workers participation. Residents at Turmont Group Home meet on a weekly basis with our Therapist. Information obtained during these meetings will be used to determine the resident's specific needs. Once the therapist feels they can make a reasonable and professional decision regarding the individualized treatment plan of each resident, the child's placement worker will be notified via telephone or monthly visit to discuss the child's current treatment plan and status. Any information or recommendation from the CSW will be addressed at this time and implemented into the NSP. All treatment plans will be Comprehensive, Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic; time limited and includes Short term and Long-term goals. The treatment plan will also be clearly defined and the needs of the child will be specific as to how they relate to the objective. All Needs and Service plans will be updated at least every three month's, a copy of NSPs and Quarterly reports will be maintained in all clients file. Copies of all individual treatment and progress notes will be maintain and filed appropriately to assure clients are receiving adequate and identified treatment services.

Ora Quaynor, Administrator and Victor Bradley, Program Director will ensure that Treatment Services are provided according the Program Statement that was designed for Turmont Home for Boys and that the corrective action remains implemented and is working as intended.


Ora Quaynor, Administrator

